

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the captioned patent application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) An implantable device for mounting to a patient's bone comprising:
  - a housing having an outer surface configured to prevent osseointegration of said housing with the patient's bone;
  - one or more components mounted in said housing; and
  - at least one protuberance configured to osseointegrate with the patient's bone without manual assistance, wherein said protuberance ~~to~~ extends from said outer surface of said housing, the protuberance configured to separate at least a portion of said outer surface of said housing from the patient's bone when said housing is positioned adjacent the patient's bone prior to osseointegration.
2. (Currently Amended) The implantable device of claim 1, wherein said housing outer surface is configured to abut the patient's bone after osseointegration.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Previously Presented) The implantable device of claim 1, wherein said at least one protuberance extends from said housing outer surface toward the patient's bone when the implantable device is in an implant orientation adjacent the patient's bone.
5. (Previously Presented) The implantable device of claim 4, wherein said at least one protuberance comprises:
  - two protuberances having longitudinal axes that lie in a plane at opposing angles relative to an implant axis, wherein said implant axis is substantially orthogonal with said housing outer surface and with said adjacent surface of the patient's bone.













105. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 93, wherein the at least one protuberance comprises a protuberance surface treatment configured to encourage osseointegration.

106. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 93, wherein the housing outer surface is formed of a material coated with a biocompatible silicone.

107. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 93, wherein the housing outer surface is formed from at least one of a biocompatible metallic, ceramic and polymeric material.

108. (Previously Presented) An implantable device comprising:

- a housing to be secured to a patient's bone, said housing having an outer surface configured to prevent osseointegration of said housing with the patient's bone;
- one or more components mounted in said housing; and
- at least one osseointegrating protuberance, extending from an outer surface of said housing, wherein said at least one osseointegrating protuberance is configured to be placed in direct contact with but not within the patient's bone and further configured to gradually sink into the patient's bone during osseointegration of said protuberance.

109. (Previously Presented) The implantable device of claim 108, wherein said housing outer surface is configured to abut the patient's bone.

110. (Previously Presented) The implantable device of claim 108, wherein said at least one protuberance extends from said housing outer surface toward the patient's bone when the implantable device is in an implant orientation adjacent the patient's bone.



111. (Previously Presented) The implantable device of claim 110, wherein said at least one protuberance comprises:

two protuberances having longitudinal axes that lie in a plane at opposing angles relative to an implant axis, wherein said implant axis is substantially orthogonal with said housing outer surface and with said adjacent bone surface of the patient's bone.

112. (Previously Presented) The implantable device of claim 111, wherein said opposing angles between said longitudinal axes of said protuberances and said implant axis are each approximately between 5 and 85 degrees.

113. (Previously Presented) The implantable device of claim 108, wherein the implantable device is a tissue stimulating prosthesis.

114. (Previously Presented) The implantable device of claim 108, wherein said at least one protuberance is configured to be extricated from the patient's bone subsequent to osseointegration.

115. (Previously Presented) The implantable device of claim 108, further comprising:

at least one elongate flange extending from said housing in a direction substantially parallel with a surface of the patient's bone when the device is in an implant orientation, and wherein each of said at least one osseointegrating protuberance is operationally disposed on one of said at least one flange so as to be laterally offset from said housing.